

visible light when the image recorded on the image record layer is observed," as recited by independent claim 1 and similarly recited by independent claims 5, 9 and 14.

The Office Action alleges that Fujiwara discloses at col. 5, lines 15-30 a functional layer that transmits the exposure light. However, Fujiwara merely discloses that the impedance of a photoconductor layer 13 is reduced, causing an alternating voltage to be applied to a liquid crystal layer. The Office Action alleges Fujiwara discloses that the photoconductor layer 13 is comprised of a light absorbing layer 14, and thus the Office Action alleges the light absorbing layer 13 corresponds to the functional layer. In addition, the Office Action alleges that the function of sending voltage/current to a liquid crystal display corresponds with the transmitting of exposure light, as recited in the independent claims.

However, because Fujiwara discloses the conversion of laser light into an electrical signal, Fujiwara fails to explicitly disclose the transmitting of exposure of light, as recited in the independent claims. Thus, Fujiwara fails to disclose the above-quoted feature of the independent claims. Baraff fails to at least cure this deficiency of Fujiwara.

Therefore, claims 1, 5, 9 and 14 are patentable over the applied references. Claims 2-4, 6-8, 10-13, and 15-19 are patentable for their various dependencies from the independent claims, as well as for the additional features the claims recite.


Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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